

GREEN GRAM

King County Solid Waste Division

The Newsletter for Green Teams in King County



GREEN TEAMS IN ACTION!

Read about "green deeds" in classrooms all over King County!

At Maple Vally Elementary, April Stevens' Advisory Council started a brand new program

to recycle lunch room milk and juice cartons! These dedicated students took it

upon themselves to educate other students in the school. In addition, they each gave up their recess once per week so that they could monitor the lunch room and make the program a success. Thanks to them, the school has already saved thousands of milk cartons from ending up at the landfill. Great work Advisory Council!

Jeanne Lunde's 1st and 2nd grade environmental club at Meredith Hill Elementary in Auburn has started two brand new worm bins for the school garden. This Green Team also took time to evaluate recycling programs at home and school. They have done fun experiments such as comparing the amount of water used for showers and baths. This group is helping their school and families to take more steps to help conserve. Keep it up Meredith Hill!

At Lake Forest Park Montessori, Mary Lou Green's 3rd-6th grade class is raising Coho salmon in a classroom tank. They are studying McAleer Stream and helping to record observations about

wildlife and habitat changes. In the spring, they will release the salmon fry into the stream. What a great way to learn and help the environment at the same time!

At Peter Kirk Elementary, the 3rd and 4th grade is studying the ecology of Juanita Bay. They are learning to identify plants and animals and effects from pollution. They also have an onsite salmon tank and the 4th grade will release the salmon into Forbes Creek again this spring. And if you have ever visited this school you will find that the grounds are filled with incredible student artwork and professional sculptures- all from reused materials!

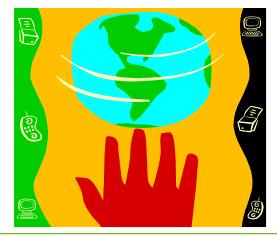
GREEN TEAM RECOGNITION! It's time to reward Green Teams that have successfully completed their projects. Great prizes, like recycled water bottles and cloth tote bags, are available for your students. Please fill out the enclosed award form and mail or fax it back by May 15th. Forms can be faxed to (206) 382-0669 or mailed to:

> Triangle Associates/ attn: Sara 811 1st Ave, Suite #255 Seattle, WA 98104

Green Team accomplishments are also highlighted in the next Green Gram newsletter. If you have a Green Team story or project to share, you can reach Sara by phone at (206) 583-0655 or send her an email and let her know what your class is doing. saragr@triangleassociates.com

SPRING Issue 2001





EARTH DAY

April 22, 2001

THE THEME FOR 2001 IS GLOBAL WARMING. What can you do?

T/P 1:

Check out websites like www.pugetsound.org/kids/ or www.earthday.net to find out about local events. Then tell your students and their families about some of the great activities. A few are listed below:

> Help the salmon habitat restoration project along the Duwamish River. Two different events are sponsored by People for Puget Sound and the Earth Ministry.

Come and participate in the Seattle Earth Day Festival with music, exhibits and activities, sponsored by the City of Seattle Office of Sustainability and Environment.

Join the "8 K Race to Stop Global Warming". It is sponsored by the Green House Network and there's even a children's fun dash!

TIP 2:

Log on to the national Earth Day website at www.earthday.net. Click on "teachers corner topics" and you can download great lesson plans about energy efficiency, habitat coloring books, and fun environmental games!

Conservation of trees and water are important steps in the battle against global warming. Here are a few things to think about...

FASCINATING FACTS

One 15-year-old tree yields about 700 paper bags. Most large grocery stores can go through this many before lunch! Your students can help by bringing their own reusable bags to the store.

Americans receive 4 million tons of junk mail yearly (44% of it is never even opened). If 100,000 people requested a stop to their junk mail, we could save 150,000 trees anually. You can help by putting a stop to junk mail at your home or school. It's easy-find out how at www.earthday.net and drop us a line to let us know how it worked!

The average shower uses 10 gallons of water per minute! Those 25-minute showers are using up 250 gallons of water! Yikes! Encourage your students to take shorter showers and to turn the sink off while they are brushing their teeth. It can truly make a difference.

Congratulations to the elementary school teachers and staff who received countywide Earth Heroes awards!

- Janet Charnley, The Evergreen School
- Bill Hayden, Snoqualmie Elementary
- Naticia Litven, Des Moines Elementary
- Gale Lundberg, Rock Creek Elementary
- Trish Hamilton, Cherry Valley Elementary
- Lynn Ronald, View Ridge Elementary
- Orca Elementary
- Pathfinder School
- Skykomish School

To read more about their exciting projects that protect and enhance the environment go to www.metrokc.gov/earthlegacy.